Driving Tours

Highland Tour...

Discover the historic villages and enjoy the picturesque sites in the "highlands" of horse country. Drive along rambling country lanes lined with stone walls. Take in the rolling pastureland silhouetted by the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains on your tour through Northern Fauquier County.

Day 1:
Begin your tour of the "Highlands of Fauquier County" via Interstate 66 west to Exit 18 Markham, home to some of the finest peach and apple orchards in the state. In season the orchards are open as "pick your own" sites. Continue down RT 688 south to Hume and then turn west on RT 635 on your way to the Marriott Ranch for a picnic lunch and an afternoon of trail riding. Finish up your afternoon on RT 635 at Oasis Winery for a little wine tasting and relaxation. Return to Marriott Ranch for an overnight and dinner at The Inn at Fairfield Farm Bed &Breakfast, located on the ranch. This historic building was the home of James Markham Marshall, brother of Chief Justice John Marshall built in 1814.

Day 2:
Depart Marriott Ranch/The Inn at Fairfield Farm via RT 635 westward to RT 726 and then north to RT 638 to Linden and Linden Vineyard for a tour of the winery. From the Linden Vineyards continue north on RT 638 to the town of Linden then head eastward on RT 55 to RT 688 north. Along this scenic byway you can stop at a "pick your own" orchard or at Naked Mountain Winery for a tour and tasting. Route 688 leads into the scenic Crooked Run Valley via US 17. Head northward to Sky Meadows State Park and Mt Bleak House. Named for the beautiful pasture and woodlands that make up this 1, 594 acres state park, Sky Meadow offers hiking, tent camping, picnicking, horseback riding and bird watching. Mt. Bleak House, situated at the Visitor Center to the Park, depicts 19th century rural life in Virginia with living history exhibits, house tours and programming. After leaving Sky Meadows take US 17 north to scenic US 50 eastward into the historic town of Upperville. This beautiful village is home to the oldest horse show in America. Stay for dinner and overnight at one of its historic pubs or inns.

Day 3:
Start your morning with breakfast in your Bed and Breakfast, and then head into Upperville via RT 50 to explore the historic district and browse through its antique & specialty shops before driving south on Scenic Byway RT 712. Take in the picturesque countryside of horse and cattle farms outlined by the Blue Ridge Mountains on your way to the historic hamlet of Delaplane, formally known as Piedmont Station. History was made here on July 19, 1861 when Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson utilized waiting freight and cattle cars as a means to transport his troop of 10,000 men into battle during the First Battle of Manassas, the first such use of a railroad in history. From Delaplane the tour will take RT 17 southward to RT 713 toward the quaint old town of Rectortown then loop around on RT 710 to the town of Marshall for lunch. Once named Salem, Marshall was an important crossroads and much traveled trade center in the northern region of the county. Today the trading continues at the Livestock Exchange just outside of town. In the afternoon travel east on RT 55 to the Village at The Plains. Noted for the white mist that covers the landscape early in the morning, "White Plains," as the town was originally named, today showcases a fine art community and historic district with specialty shops and restaurants. Spend the afternoon discovering the heritage and influence of African American's in Fauquier County at the African American Historical Society Museum. Complete your afternoon with a scenic drive via RT 626. Along the way you can stop and taste some of Fauquier's finest at Piedmont Vineyard and Winery before heading home.